

CA-040-305B BEAR MOUNTAIN RARE II CONTIGUOUS  
(MAP 04-L)

I. PHYSICAL BOUNDARIES

This unit contains three separate parcels of contiguous, roadless, BLM-administered lands which adjoin the Los Padres National Forest RARE II Unit 5-103, Bear Mountain. This RARE II unit was recently designated for further planning.

II. LAND OWNERSHIP

The 3,198 acre Wilderness Study Area includes three separate parcels of BLM-administered public lands. There are no non-public lands within the unit.

III. DESCRIPTION OF ENVIRONMENT

This unit is dominated by very steep rugged terrain accentuated by intermittent streams located in the canyon bottoms. The unit is heavily overgrown with chamise, which is the predominant vegetation in the unit. Some small pockets of annual grasses occur in the unit.

IV. NATURAL CONDITION

The unit has generally retained its natural character. A television translator station and associated access road is located in Sec 33, T. 19 S., R. 5 E. The translator station is small and is not a noticeable intrusion on the landscape. A way crosses the center of the western parcel of the unit in an east-west direction. There are also a few firebreaks located within the unit. Portions of the unit were burned during the summer of 1977. The Wilderness Study Area excludes the television translator station and the associated access road. A portion of the unit in Sec 35, T. 19 S., R. 5 E., is isolated from the Wilderness Study Area by a road and is also excluded.

V. OUTSTANDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR SOLITUDE OR A PRIMITIVE AND UNCONFINED TYPE OF RECREATION

The outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive and unconfined types of recreation within the unit are closely associated with the adjacent RARE II unit and the primitive character of the entire roadless area.

VI. SUMMARY OF PUBLIC COMMENTS

Most comments received on this unit dealt with grazing and mineral values. These are study phase issues and will be evaluated during the study phase of the wilderness review procedure. Two additional comments indicated the unit was too small for wilderness. Due to the contiguous RARE II unit the area meets the size requirements for a Wilderness Study Area.